

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for improving soft ground, comprising:

an injection rod [(20)] including an injection pipe [(10)] into which fluid is introduced, and an outer casing [(12)] disposed around the injection pipe [(10)] with an air feeding path [(14)] therebetween;

one or more injection holders [(40)] coupled to an outer surface of the outer casing ~~(12) to be~~ positioned at different levels ~~and to be inclined downward;~~ and

a bit [(30)] coupled to a lower end of the injection rod [(20),] and ~~having defining jet holes (60, 60a),~~ which are inclined downward and ~~in which~~ have inclined jet nozzles ~~(70, 70a)~~ are inserted therein, and a cutting water nozzle [(74)] provided at [(its)] a center of the bit.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the one or more injection holders [(40)] are coupled to the injection pipe [(1)] and the outer casing ~~(12) to be~~ and horizontally positioned.

3. (Currently amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the injection holders [(40)] includes:

a tubular connecting holder [(42)] coupled to the injection pipe [(10)] through the outer casing [(12)];

a flange [(46)] disposed under a lower end of the connecting holder [(42)] and having a plurality of air guide holes [(44)];

a nozzle [(50)] fitted in the flange [(46)] ;

a jet guide holder [(90)] having an upper space [(52)] in which the nozzle [(50)] fitted in the flange [(46)] is received, and a drain hole [(56)] having a diameter smaller than that of the space [(52)] and connected to the upper space [(52)], in which a snap ring [(54)] is partially embedded in an inner surface of the jet guide holder [(90)] to support an upper end of the flange [(46)], with a check rubber ring [(84)] disposed under the flange [(46)] in the upper space [(52)], and a support cap interposed between the flange [(46)] and the check rubber ring [(84)] to support the check rubber ring [(84)]; and

a protection pipe [(96)] threadedly coupled to the jet guide holder [(90)] at [(its)] one end of the protection pipe and coupled to the outer casing [(12)] at ~~the other~~ another end.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2, further comprising a check packing [(92)] provided under the flange [(46)] in [the] an upper space [(52)] of the jet guide holder [(90)].

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2, wherein the nozzle [(50)] fitted in the flange [(46)] includes an arched concave surface [(98)] and an inclined surface [(98a)] at [its] an upper end thereof.

6. (New) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the one or more injection holders are coupled to the injection pipe and the outer casing and inclined downward.